

REMARKS

This is an Amendment made in response to the Final Office Action mailed November 29, 2006, in which a three (3) month Shortened Statutory Period for Response was set and which expired February 28, 2007, and in response to the Advisory Action dated April 17, 2007. Attached is an electronic fee transmittal with the requisite fee to cover the fee for a two-month extension of time, to April 30, 2007. The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090. Upon entry of the amendments herewith, claims 1, 22-23, 27, 29-36, and 38-42 remain pending.

1. Acknowledgement of Applicants' Response to the Final Office Action

Applicants thank the Examiner for his reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 26 and 36 as noted in the Advisory Action dated April 17, 2007. In response, applicants amend claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 26, namely that the broken region of the cut surface on the side of the lower blade is 50 % to 60 % of the cut surface on the side of the lower blade. This 50 % to 60 % range of the cut surface is indicated to be the allowable subject matter in the Advisory Action at page 2, paragraph 3.

Claim 32 is amended to change the 40 % to 65% range of the broken region of the first cut surface to a range of 50 % to 60 %. This 50 % to 60 % range of the cut surface is indicated to be the allowable subject matter in the Advisory Action at page 2, paragraph 3.

Applicants have accepted the allowed claims by amending the independent claims to include the indicated allowable subject matter in a sincere effort to place the case in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry after final of the amendments herein.

2. Applicants Interview Summary

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting the After-Final Interviews of April 27 and April 30, 2007. Below follows a brief summary of the substance of the Interviews.

The applicants wished to submit and discuss proposed claim amendments to independent claims 1 and 32. The proposed amendments were submitted to the Examiner by facsimile on April 27, 2007. The Examiner indicated that the proposed amendments would place the claims in condition for allowance, subject to approval by his supervisor. Applicants were invited to electronically file the proposed amendments as an After Final Amendment.

3. Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully submit that all objections and rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, or accommodated, and that all pending claims 1, 22-23, 27, 29-36, and 38-42 are allowable. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner allow all pending claims. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Mr. Armentrout by telephone to discuss the above and any other distinctions between the claims and the applied references, if desired. If the Examiner notes any informalities in the claims, he is further encouraged to contact Mr. Armentrout by telephone to expediently correct such informalities.

Respectfully submitted,
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